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Applicant(s): Walke *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: 09/755,016

Examiner: C. Fronda

Filed: 01/05/2001

Atty. Docket No.: LEX-0114-USA

Title: Novel Human Proteases and Polynucleotides
Encoding the Same

TECH CENTER 1600.2900

AMENDMENT; AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 26, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Office Action ("the Action") mailed on October 26, 2001 (Paper No. 8), which has been carefully reviewed and studied. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the objections and rejections in Paper No. 8 in the same order in which they were originally raised.

A Petition for an Extension of Time of one month to and including February 26, 2002, and authorization to deduct the fee as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1) from Applicants' representatives Deposit Account are included. The response is thus timely filed. Applicants believe no fees in addition to the fee for the extension of time are due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Amendment 1: The following amendments are made to the claims of the application: